ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

HEALTH AND SANITARY CONDITION

OF THE

Poulton-le-Fylde Urban District

FOR 1920.

WILLIAM RIDDELL, M.B., CH.B.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

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Poulton-le-Fylde Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Councillors,

I beg to present to you the Annual Report of the health of your Urban District Council for the year 1920.

The Birth and Death Rates are calculated on a population of 2,594. The 1911 population was 2,750.

Births.—61 were registered, 24 males and 37 females (the highest ever recorded in Poulton-le-Fylde), giving a rate per 1,000 per annum of 23.5; the three previous years being 15.8, 17.2, and 15.7, and 15.5 for 10 years 1910-1919. The rise is 7.8 compared with 1919, and 8 up for the previous decade average. Two illegitimate births were registered, 1 of either sex, against 6 in 1919, and *nil* in 1918. 41 births were registered in 1919.

Deaths.—47 were registered, 19 males and 28 females. The rate is 18.1 per 1,000 per annum, against a rate of 14 in 1919 and 19.9 in 1918, and a mean of 13.5 for the decade 1910-1919. The increase is 4.1 on the past year, and 4.6 for the previous 10 years' average. The deaths are 14 less than the births. 35 deaths were registered in 1919.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The Epidemic Death-rate is *nil* per 1,000 per annum, against 0.4 in 1919, and 0.42 in 1918, and 0.36 for the past 10 years' average.

Four cases of Scarlet Fever and 1 Tubercular Lung went to Moss Side and Elswick Hospital.

Measles 1, recovered.

Malaria, 1, recovered.

Pneumonia 4, 1 death.

Chicken-pox 9.

Tubercular disease of lungs 4, 1 death.

Diphtheria 2 cases.

Scarlet Fever 5.

Schools closed 26-1-20 to 16-2-20 for Measles.

PHTHISIS PULMONALIS.

The Death-rate is 0.77 per 1,000 per annum against *nil* in 1919, and 0.48 in the previous 10 years. This is a rise of 0.29 against the previous decade.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

One male and 2 female children died under 1 year, giving a rate of 49 per 1,000 births, against 73 in 1919, and 77 for the past decade. The rate is 24 below 1919, and 28 below the past 10 years' average. No illegitimate child died under 1 year old.

Measles was prevalent in January and February, but very mild, and Influenza was conspicuous by its absence.

DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES.

	Male.	Female.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	1	1
Other Tubercular diseases	—	1
Cancer	2	4
Heart disease	3	5
Bronchitis	—	2
Pneumonia (all forms)	1	2
Other Lung diseases	1	—
Cirrhosis of Liver	—	1
Suicide	1	—
Violence apart from Suicide	—	1
Other defined diseases	10	11
TOTAL	19	28

GENERAL CHARACTERS OF THE DISTRICT.

The township of Poulton-le-Fylde is situated three miles from the County Borough of Blackpool.

It stands on an eminence, is on a declivity towards the River Wyre, is well drained, and having no factories, may be considered residential.

The surrounding farmers are mostly engaged in furnishing milk, butter, cream, cheese, fruit and vegetables to Blackpool and large inland towns.

The subsoil is clay, but Rheumatism is rare, and epidemics of any sort are meagre in the Urban and immediate districts.

AREA.—915 statute acres.

Population in 1911.....	2,750
Population in 1919.....	2,600
Population in 1920.....	2,594

Resident and serious cases needing operation interference go to Preston, Manchester, or Blackpool Hospitals. There is a well-conducted District Nursing Association, whose Nurse for many years has done most excellent work.

WATER.—This comes from the Fylde Water Board, is pure and abundant, except in long periods of drought.

DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE go to the River Wyre, one mile away, and the sewers are regularly flushed and cleaned out when necessary.

Closet Accommodation.—See Sanitary Inspector's Report.

Scavenging.—All the refuse is taken to tips in the country and covered with earth, and proves satisfactory and suitable.

Sanitary Inspection of District.—See Sanitary Inspector's Report.

Schools.—The water supply is pure and abundant. In any bad epidemic, they are closed.

Milk.—Abundant and pure. All derived locally.

Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops.—These are satisfactory, and the Cattle Auction Buildings are well kept.

Milk (Mothers and Children) Order, 1918.—Nothing done.

Other Foods.—No food or parts of carcases condemned in 1920.

Five bakehouses, all good ; 3 slaughter-houses, but only 1 quite satisfactory. No underground bakehouses.

Infectious Diseases Generally.—Measles and Chicken Pox.

Diphtheria.—Anti-toxin supplied free.

Cases of Infectious disease removed if necessay to Moss Side Fever Hospital. Tuberculosis is always notified.

SMALL-POX.—No cases.

One Primary Vaccination was done in the area in 1920 by Public Vaccinator.

Bacteriological aid was resorted to in 1920 in 4 cases.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.—Nothing done.

I remain, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

WILLIAM RIDDELL, M.B., Ch.B.

Medical Officer of Health, Poulton-le-Fylde.

Poulton-le-Fylde Urban District Council.

Nuisance Inspector's Report

ON THE

SANITARY CONDITION

OF THE

DISTRICT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1920.

To the Chairman and Members of the Poulton-le-Fylde Urban District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report and Summary of work done within your District for the year ending December, 1920.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1875.

Total number of notices served	24
Formal notices served	—
Drains taken up and relaid	1
Drains opened and rectified	5
Defective Water Closets made good	4
Number of premises inspected	54
PARTICULARS OF SANITARY ACCOMMODATION.	
Privy Middens	89
Pail Closets	5
Number of Ashpits	207
Fresh Water Closets	545
Portable Ash Receptacles	364
Waste Water Closets	11

WATER COURSES.—The condition of the water courses within the district are good with regard to pollution by sewage, but those forming the boundary on the South and West are contaminated from without.

The ditches in the district which take most of the surface water and maintained by you, are in a good clean state, but on several farm lands are in a neglected condition.

Slaughter-Houses.—There are three registered and licensed slaughter-houses in the Council's area, only one of which can be said to be quite satisfactory.

Dairies and Cowsheds.—In only one case has it been necessary to call attention to the bye-laws, and immediate attention was given to same.

Bakeries.—There are five Bakehouses in use in the Urban District, most of which are well maintained and the regulations carefully observed.

Workshops.—These seem to be satisfactorily maintained.

Cattle Auction Mart.—Necessary in one case to call attention to the more frequent removal of offal and the cleansing of premises, prompt attention beirg given to same.

Common Lodging-House.—The one licensed lodging-house in Poulton is decently kept and the regulations complied with.

Removal of Nightsoil and Ashes.—This work is undertaken by the Council. Ashpits being emptied once every three months and more frequently on notice being given to the Surveyor. Bins are emptied weekly. The refuse is disposed of on a tip a considerable distance from the town, and regular attention given at the tip to

Rat Extinction. Early attention should be given to the large number of Ashpits, several of which serve more than one premises. A number are old and decrepid, and should be substituted by bins.

Combination Privies and Ashpits.—Nine conversions to Water Closets and Bins have been carried out. Several are in an old and insanitary state, and attention should be given to the conversion of these.

Sewage Disposal and Sewering.—The major portion of the district is sewered, and the effluent carried to the tidal waters of the River Wyre, and quickly disposed of.

Housing.—The number of houses certified for occupation during the year was 15. The number of subsidised houses was 8, of which 3 have been completed during the year. None of these are of a class suitable for the working man.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

E. PRESCOTT, A.R.S.I.,

Surveyor and Nuisance Inspector.